This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS YEREVAN 001282

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPT FOR EUR/CACEN, L/EB, L/CID, EB/OIA

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>EINV</u> <u>KIDE</u> <u>AM</u>

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: NAJARIAN INVESTMENT

DISPUTE

Ref: STATE 132026

12. (SBU) Per reftel we delivered points to Deputy Minister of Trade and Economic Development Tigran Davtyan, who is responsible for monitoring Armenia's international obligations under Bilateral Investment Treaties. Davtyan told us that, in his personal opinion, the Bilateral Investment Treaty did not apply to this case because the commercial dispute here is between two private parties. Davtyan raised the fact that the Najarians are not seeking a civil remedy against the GOAM, but lobbying the government to itself seek a criminal remedy against one of its citizens. Davtyan did agree with us that perception of a fair business environment is important, and said he would again alert the Minister about our interest in the case.

GODFREY